

Helensview Fall 2020 Reopening Overview

DRAFT v1

We are excited to share our initial plans for reopening Helensview School this fall. In this document, you will find information about our initial plan to safely reopen using a hybrid instructional model. This plan was developed using guidance from the Oregon Department of Education, the Oregon Health Authority, the Centers for Disease Control, Multnomah County Health Department, and MESD School Health Services.

Looking to reopen, our goals are to:

1. Maximize the health and safety of all our students and staff, including those identified as medically at risk;
2. Ensure equitable access for all students, including those who are Black, Indigenous, a student of color and/or LGBTQIA+, to the full range of educational services and quality instruction; and
3. Provide individualized, specially designed instruction to all students in accordance with their learning needs.

Question: What is included in your plan?

Our plan takes into account eight main areas for reopening. These areas include (1) public health protocols, (2) facilities and school operations, (3) response to outbreak, (4) equity, (5) instruction, (6) family and community engagement, (7) mental, social and emotional health, and (8) staffing and personnel.

Question: When will I know if students will be back in person or continue with distance learning?

We are planning to provide a mixture of in-person and distance learning. There will be two options offered to all students.

Choice 1 is a solely virtual model. CTE and core subjects taught live through Zoom and Google Chat. Online classes will be offered through Google Classroom, Newsela, and Odysseyware. All students in this model will receive in-person check-ins at home or an agreed upon location, bimonthly.

Choice 2 is a hybrid model in which all students attend school on campus one or two days a week. These students will attend classes with a cohort (see details below), and will receive instruction, support, and specifically designed instruction and supports on campus through their case manager. During the days students are not on campus, they will engage with staff and other students for core and CTE Zoom and Google classes. They will also have access to online classes through Google Classroom, Newsela, and Odysseyware.

This plan remains tentative as we continue to monitor conditions and listen to feedback. A final decision will be made by August 15, 2020 and communicated directly to all parents, students, and staff.

Question: Where can I access the initial reopening plan draft?

[Detailed Reopening Plan for Helensview School 7/8/20 Draft \(18 pages\) \(PDF\)](#)

We will be updating this plan based on feedback from stakeholders like you and as additional guidance is released. Our next scheduled draft will be posted on August 3, 2020, and we will ask for additional feedback. Our final plan will be available on August 15, 2020.

Question: How will you keep students and staff safe? Will the adults and students be required to wear masks?

Health and Safety are our priority.

- All staff will be provided with and required to wear masks and/or face shields.
- Students who are 12 years and older are required to wear masks, except when medically not appropriate. Masks will be provided.
- All students will be required to wash hands or use hand sanitizer before entering the building and when making transitions to other instructional spaces.
- All students will be supported with frequent hand-washing or using hand sanitizer before and after meals.
- Staff will clean all touch-point surfaces before school and on a schedule multiple times throughout the day.
- Physical distancing (six feet or more) will be maintained to the greatest extent possible.

Question: What is the process if a student or staff member becomes sick with COVID-19? How will I be informed?

If a student or staff tests positive for COVID-19, the Helensview school nurse will record and monitor the students and staff being isolated or sent home for the Local Public Health Authorities review. The school nurse will be responsible for all contact tracing procedures. Families of students will be contacted by the school nurse.

Question: What if a student becomes sick at home? How do we communicate with the school?

We will send more detailed information about communication procedures to families when school starts. What we can share now is that we will be asking families and care providers to monitor students for symptoms at home. If a student or family/household member displays symptoms or has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the family or care provider notify Helensview School staff at 503-262-4150 immediately and keep their child home.

All students' temperatures will be taken daily prior to entering the school building. If they have a temperature or are exhibiting other COVID-19 symptoms, they will be sent home following their transportation plan.

- All staff and students with symptoms consistent with Covid-19 will be supported to get Covid-19 testing.
- If these individuals test positive for Covid-19, they will be mandated to stay home for 10 days, and then 72 hours after their fever is gone, without use of fever-reducing medicine.
- If they test negative or do not get tested, they will be asked to stay home for 72 hours after their fever is gone, without use of fever-reducing medicine.

Question: Will students be penalized for not attending school in person?

No. We will work with families, care providers and students to develop plans to provide remote learning options on an as-needed basis.

Question: What if I do not feel comfortable with my student attending a school site? Can I have online distance learning full-time as an option?

Yes. Please contact Amanda Wood at awood@mesd.k12.or.us or 503-262-4160 to discuss options.

Question: Will you be able to meet the individualized needs of students with IEPs?

Yes. Our special education team will work with families and students and the student's IEP team to ensure that the student is provided with FAPE in the least restrictive environment possible, in accordance with the student's IEP.

Question: Will there be opportunities for parents and guardians to learn how to navigate the devices for home learning? When will those take place?

Yes. We will be hosting multiple sessions beginning in late August. We will communicate with families about those sessions through Facebook, our website, and via email.

Question: I have additional questions about plans for reopening schools, who do I contact?

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